Schemes for linking of rivers

2570. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any schemes for linking of river systems contemplated under the Eighth Five Year Plan for optimising the use of water resources available ; and

(b) if so, what are the details and the cost thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) A National Perspective for Water Resources Development prepared by the Government envisages inter-linkages between the major rivers of the Peninsular region and between the Himalayan rivers separately for transfer of water from water rich basin to water deficit basin, for optimum utilisation of water resources. The National Water Development Agency (NWDA) under the Ministry of Water Resources has been entrusted the work of firming up these proposals. A total of 36 water transfer links, 17 under Peninsular component and 19 under Himalayan component have been identified by NWDA. While office studies of 8 links under Peninsular component have been completed, studies of balance jinks have been included in the VIII Plan. Also, field investigations of 9 links of Peninsular component and 3 links of Himalayan component have been included in the VIII Plan Programme of the Agency. In the absence of detailed project reports aspects like cost involved, benefits envisaged outlays required and completion schedule cannot be quantified.

Pamba-Achankavil Vaigai Project

2571. SHRI S. MADHAVAN : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the pre-feasibility report of Pamba Achankavil Vaigai Link ject;

(b) if so, whether it would be placed on the Table of the House;

(c) What would be the additional acreage that can be brought under cultivation under this project in Tamil Nadu and Kerala; and

(d) what would be the cost of this project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA) : (a) and (b) The National Water Development Agency under the Ministry of Water Resources has, after office studies, prepared a preliminary feasibility report of the Pamba-Achankavil Vaigai link. It is subject to change based on field survey data and comments and observations of the concerned State Governments. There is no proposal to place preliminary feasibility studies on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d) The preliminary feasibility studies have indicated that at an estimated cost of Rs. 668 crores, the project provides one lakh hectares irrigation benefit in Tamil Nadu and 16.9 M.W. Power to Kerala.

Share Cost of Sardar Sarovar project

2572. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL:
SHRI CHHOTUBHAI PATEL:
SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there are arrears in payment of share cost of Sardar Sarovar

Project by the participating States viz. Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government propose to take suitable action or the steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, what are these steps?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The issue regarding the payment of share cost of Sardar Sarovar Project to the Government of Gujarat by the party States has been discussed in the Sardar Sarovar Construction Advisory Committee meetings from time to time and States have been apprised of the need for immediate settlement of disputed claims and early payment of outstanding dues to the Government of Gujarat, in terms of Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal Award.

Inadequate supply of water to Nagarjuna Sagar Command area, A. P.

2573. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sufficient water is not available for the tailend land in the Nagarjuna Sagar Command Area in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to improve the conditions there?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI V.C. SHUKLA (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) By lining the main canal to increase its carrying capacity and by adopting systematised canal operations, supplies are being ensured to the tailend lands to the extent possible. In addition, the State Government has identified 196 supplementation schemes (both diversion & lift) to supply water to the tailend areas. Out of these 121 schemes have been completed.

Schemes for the upliftment of Backward Classes in Uttar Bradesh and Gujarat

2574. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has formulated any scheme to uplift the backward classes in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat:

(b) if so, the details thereof:;

(c) the quantum of amount provided by Government for this purpose; and

(d) the details of schemes in which this amount has been utilised by the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) to (d) The Central Government has not formulated any schemes exclusively for the upliftment of the backward classes in Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. However, the Government have set up a National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation which has been incorporated as a Company not for profit under Section 25 of the Companises Act, 1256 with an authorised share capital of Rs. 200 Crores. An amount of Rs. 25 Crores has already been released as paid up capital in favour of the Corporation during 1991-92. A further provision of Rs. 25 Crores has been made in the 1992-93 Budget. The Corporation would provide an additional channel of finance for and assist in the upgradation of technical and entreprenurial skills, of Socially & Educationally Backward Classes. State Governments have been asked to prepare schemes and send them to NBCFDC.